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Docket No. 219002029000

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on February 11, 2002.

Tami M. Procopio
Tami M. Procopio

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Babu J. Mavunkel, *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/575,060

Filing Date: 19 May 2000

For: INDOLE-TYPE DERIVATIVES AS
INHIBITORS OF p38 KINASE

Examiner: Celia Chang

Group Art Unit: 1625

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to an Office Action herein mailed 10 September 2001, time for response to which was set to expire 10 December 2001. A petition for an extension of time of two (2) months until 10 February 2002 is attached hereto, along with the required fee. Claims 1-9, 11-12 and 14-42 were examined and claims 1-9, 11-12, 15-21, 29-33, and 36-42 were rejected; claims 22-28 and 34-35 were objected to and claim 14 was withdrawn from consideration. Applicants appreciate the recognition that embodiments wherein R^4 or R^3 are other than hydrogen or where a Z^2 is nitrogen are clearly patentable over the art. It is believed that the rejection over the art that remains, however, is in error. In order to expedite prosecution, the claims have been limited to embodiments wherein Z^3 is NR^7 without prejudice to pursuing claims to alternative embodiments wherein Z^3 is O in continuing applications. It is believed that the claims as amended are in a position for immediate allowance.

Enclosed is the following Exhibit A: Marked-up Version of Amendments to the Specification and Claims.